PRESS INFORMATION

BBC RADIO ONE 97-99 FM

BBC RADIO TWO 88-91 FM

BBC RADIO 3

BBC RADIO FOUR

BBC RADIO 5 Live News & Sport 909 & 693 MW

- THE THREE MUSKETEERS-SWASHBUCKLING ADVENTURE
- PRIMAL SCREAM IN CONCERT
- THE HAGLEY APPEAL SCHOOLS PROM
- GREEK ORTHODOX EASTER SEASON BEGINS
- YOU CANNOT BE SERIOUS! WITH GARRY RICHARDSON

BBC RADIO

WEEK 17 - APRIL 23 - 29 1994

highlights

Cover story Week 17

(c) Sven Arnstein
The Three Musketeers, starring (l-r) Timothy Spall, Jamie Glover, Robert Glenister, Anton Lesser and Imelda Staunton, begins on Radio 4FM on Thursday mornings .

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11 **You Cannot Be Serious!** Garry Richardson and Kevin Day take a light-hearted look at sporting fixtures
23 **Trevor Brooking's Football Night:** British and European football action

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highlights

More details inside

Picture shows:
Billy Cotton.
(c) BBC

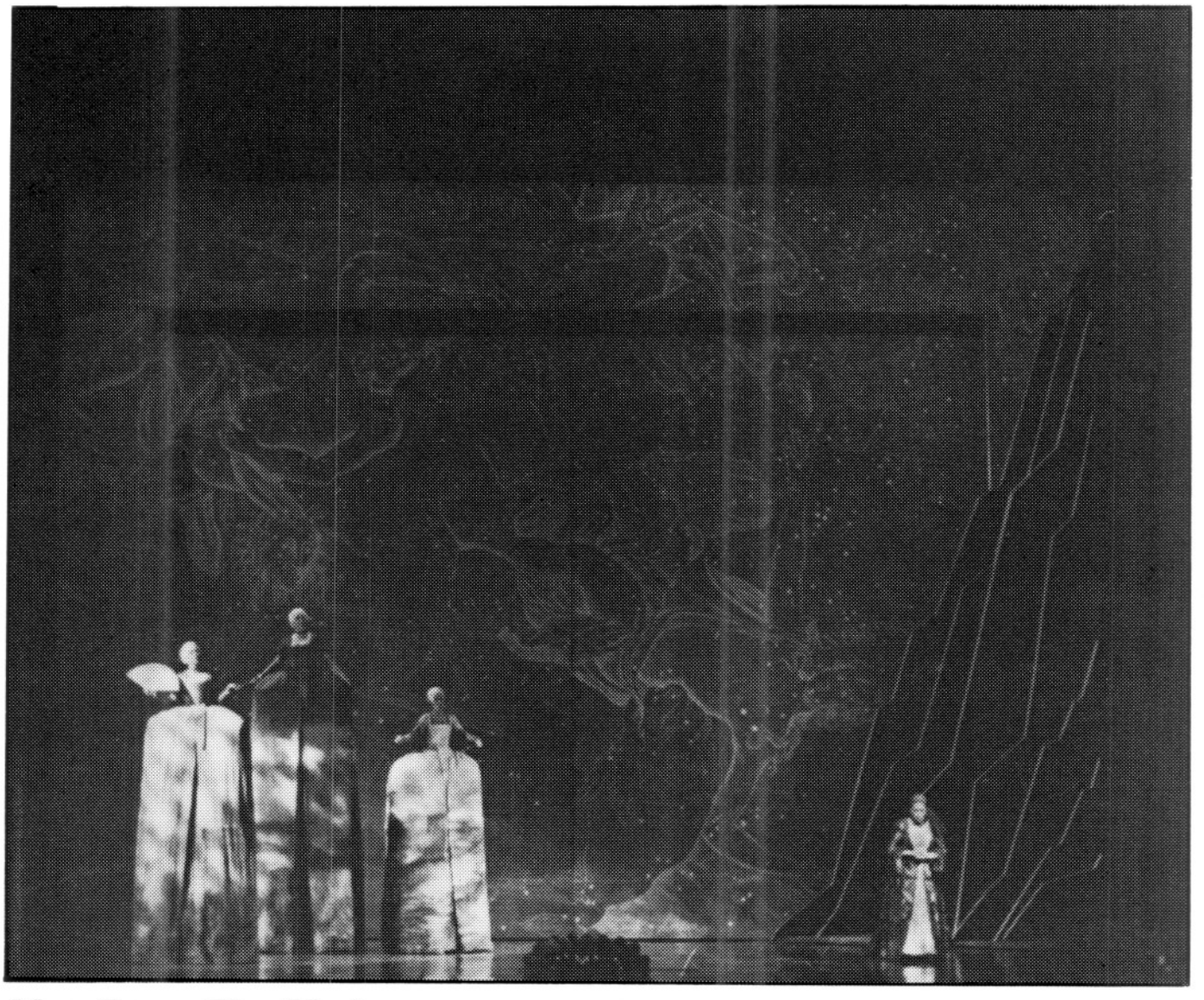
The Golden Days of Radio - The Billy Cotton Band Show

Saturday, April 23 at 2.30pm on Radio 2

Radio 2 celebrates 'The Golden Days of Radio' with a 1958 edition of 'The Billy Cotton Band Show'.

More details inside

Picture Shows:
A Scene from Ariadne auf Naxos.
Photo Credit: Winnie Klotz/ Metropolitan Opera



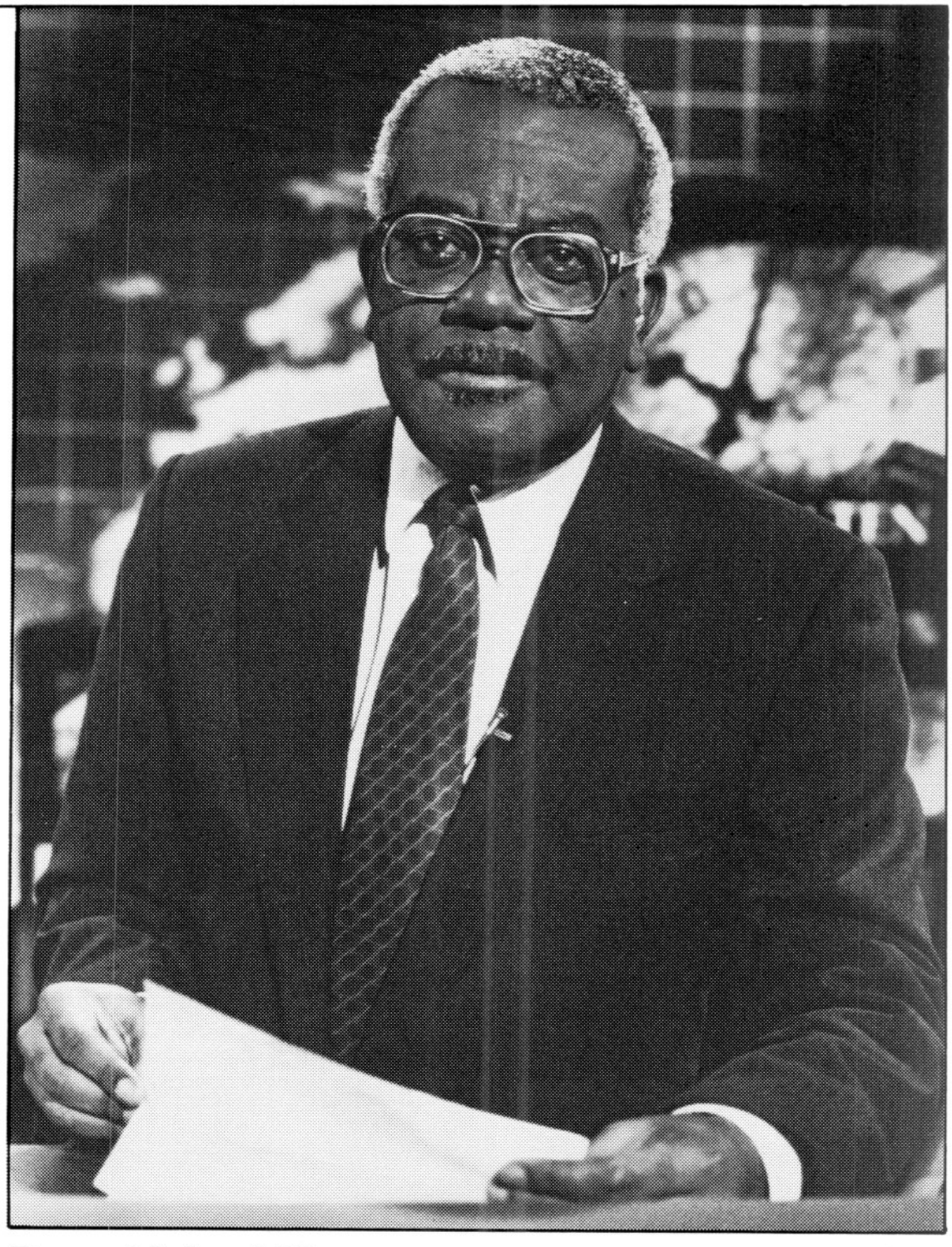
Live From The Met - Ariadne auf Naxos

Saturday, April 23 at 6.30pm on Radio 3

The 'Live from the Met' season draws to a close with Richard Strauss's ' Ariadne auf Naxos'. A starry cast is headed by Carol Vaness, Tracy Dahl, Teresa Stratas, Wolfgang Schmidt and Hermann Prey and is conducted by James Levine.

More details inside

Picture shows: Trevor McDonald. (c)ITV.



Desert Island Discs

Sunday, April 24 at 12.15pm on Radio 4

News at Ten anchorman and cricket enthusiast Trevor McDonald sails off to the mythical desert island this week.

More details inside

Picture shows: Charlie Chester. (c) BBC

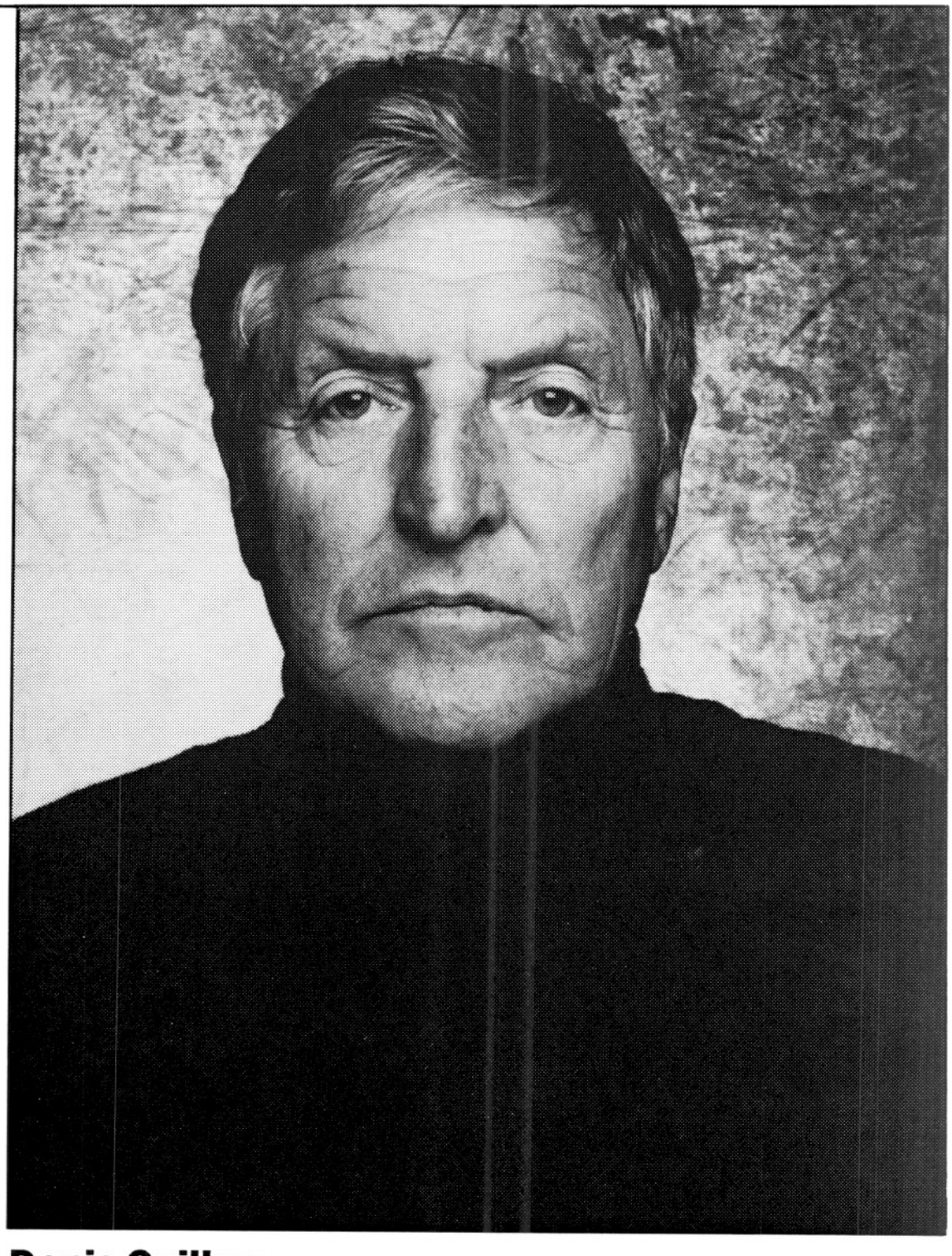
Charlie Chester

Sunday, April 24 at 5.03pm on Radio 2

Next week the evergreen Charlie Chester celebrates his 80th birthday and 25 years on Radio 2. As a prelude he talks to Peter Haigh about his 60 years in the 'biz'.

More details inside

Picture shows: Denis Quilley. Photo Credit: Chris Capstick (c) BBC



Denis Quilley

Sunday, April 24 at 8.30pm on Radio 4

Denis Quilley narrates Richard Crossman's political diaries, chronicling the events of 1967 and the Labour Government's turmoil over the sale of arms to South Africa.

More details inside

Picture shows:
Maureen Beattie.
(c) BBC.

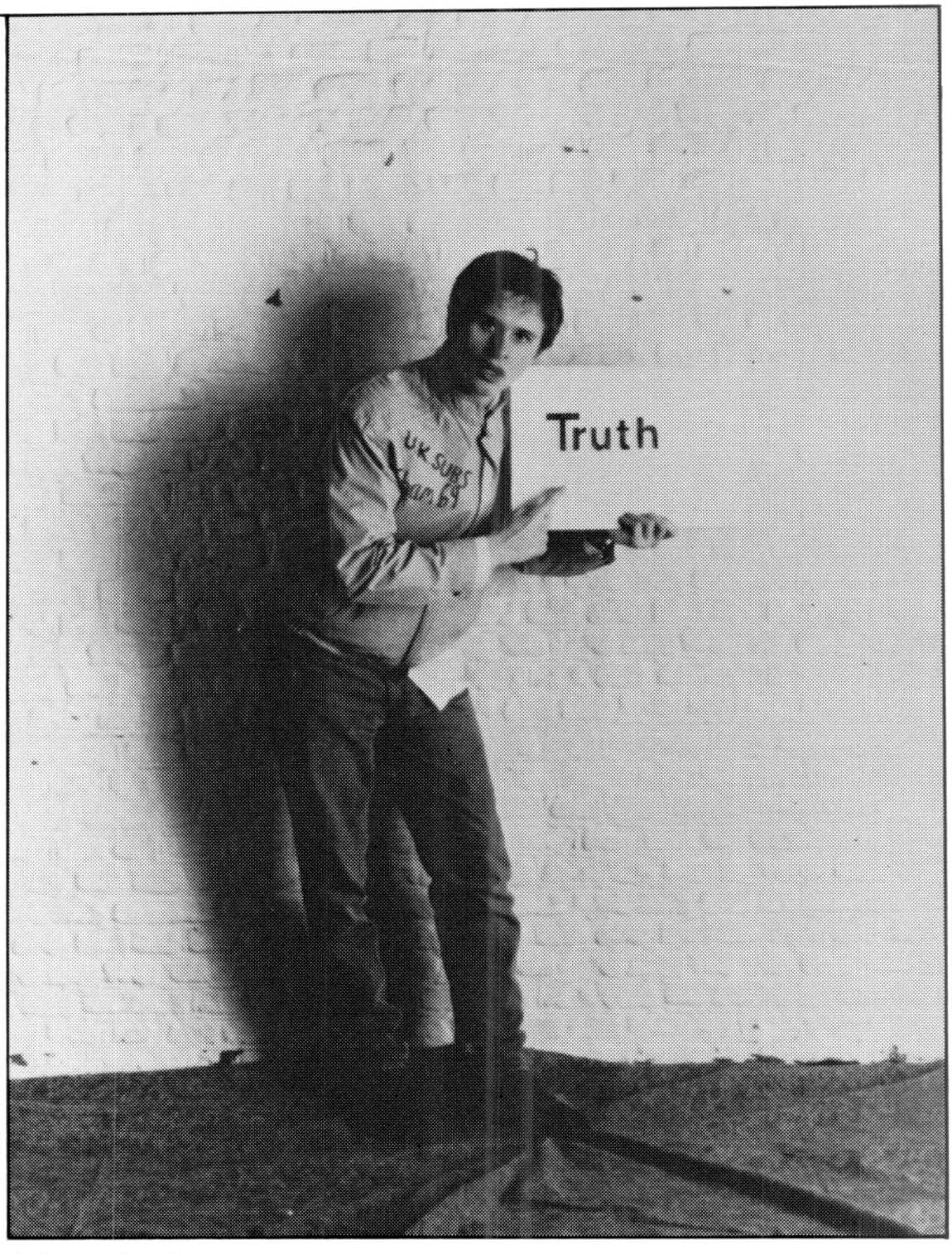
Gabrielle and the Gargoyles

Monday, April 25 at 7.45pm on Radio 4

Maureen Beattie stars as a young woman who discovers as a child that she has inherited her father's miraculous gift for stone carving in 'Gabrielle and the Gargoyles', Radio 4's Monday play.

More details inside

Picture shows:
Alan Parker.
(c) BBC



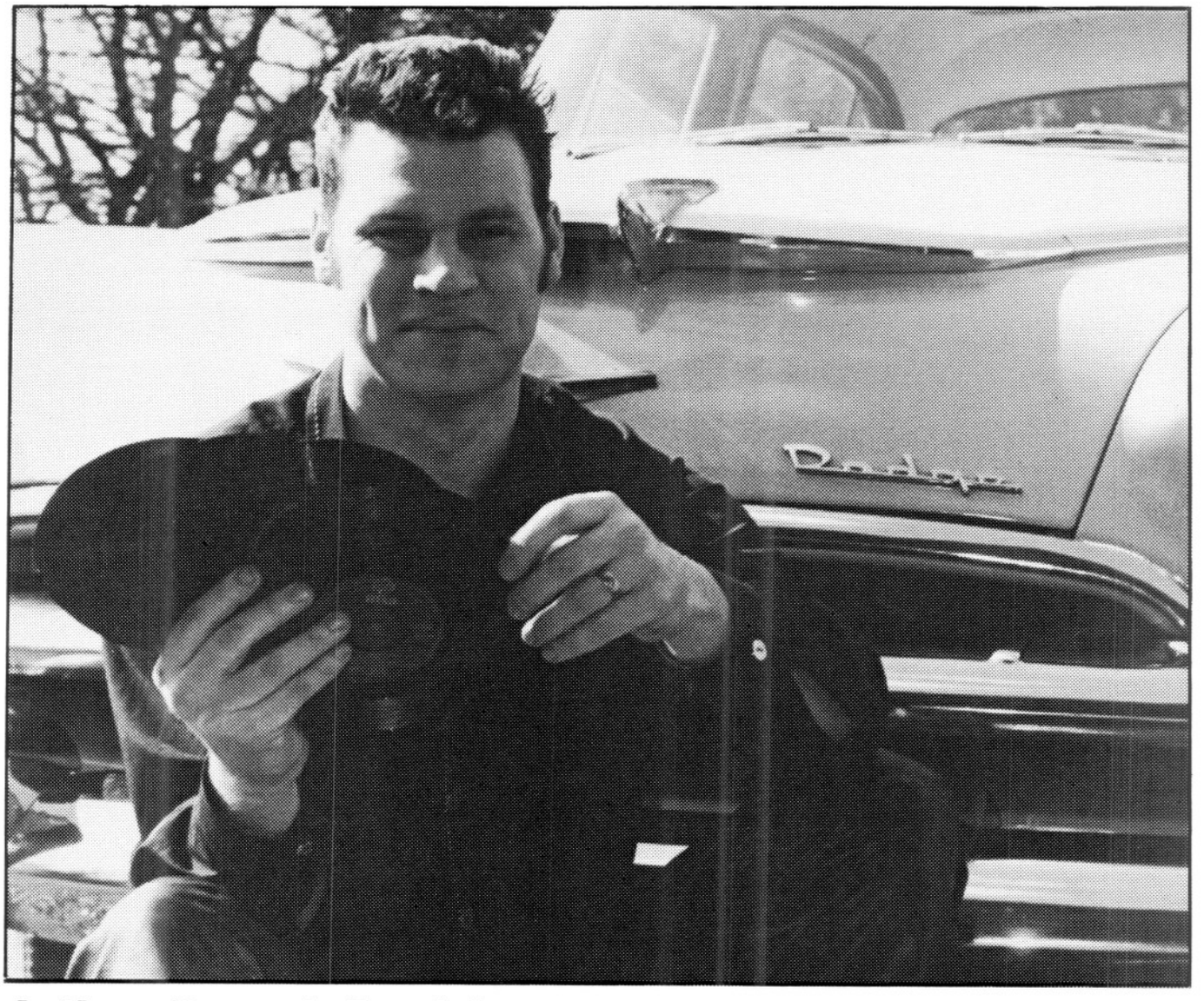
Alan Parker

Wednesday, April 27 at 9.00pm on Radio 1FM

Radio comedy's 'Urban Warrior' claims to be the only left wing person in Britain and reckons he could teach Billy Bragg a thing or two about political ideology. Tonight he returns to Radio 1FM to continue his mission to subvert the audience.

More details inside

Picture shows: Mark Kermode.
(c) BBC



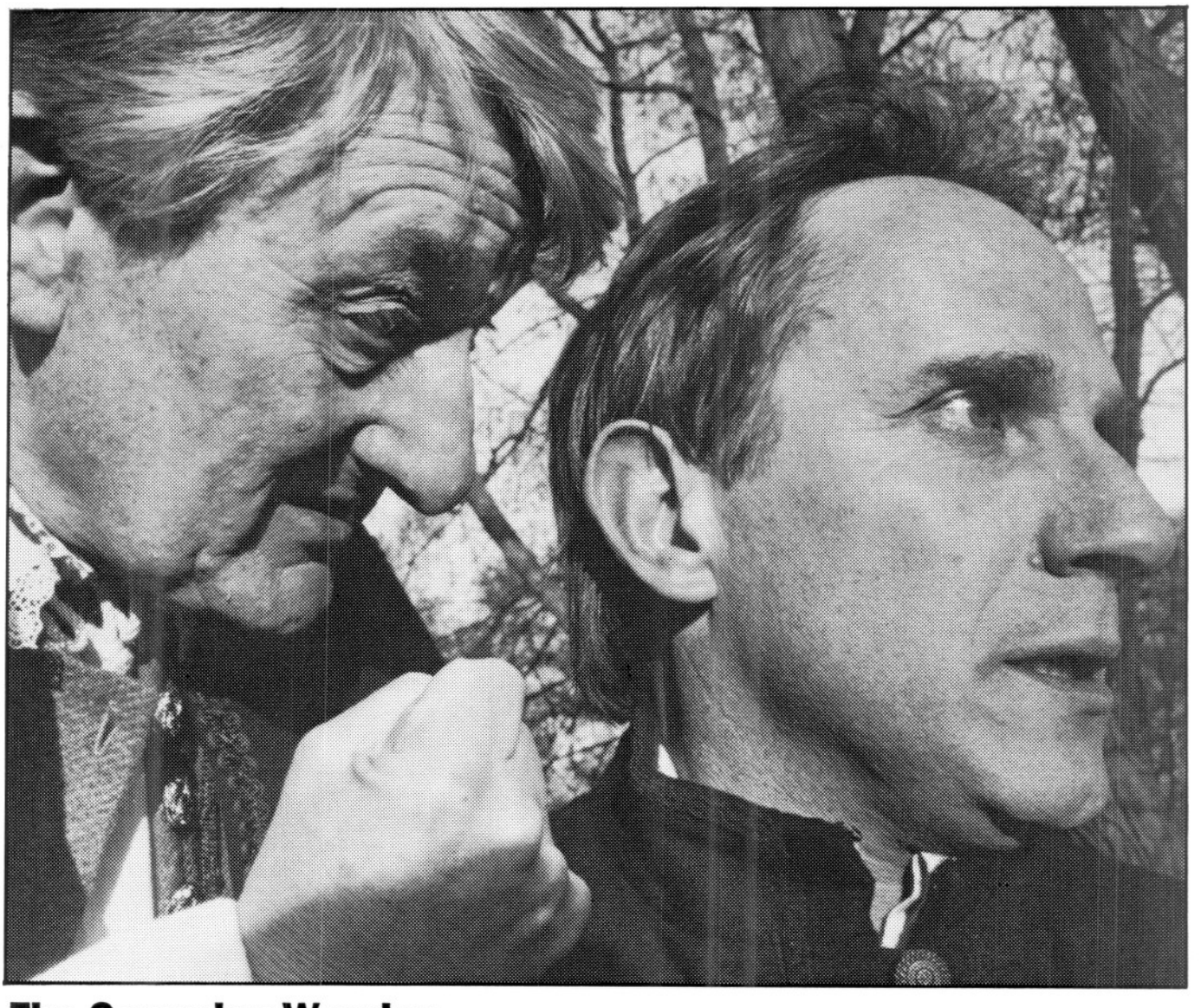
Antique Records Roadshow

Wednesday, April 27 at 9.30pm on Radio 1FM

This week finds Mark Kermode in Brighton getting the low down hunting out all that's collectable in rockabilly Mark will be looking for the obscure, bizarre and valuable vinyl relics, accompanied by celebrity guests and experts.

More details inside

Picture shows:
(L-R) Peter Jeffrey as Sir Thomas Overbury
and
Richard Derrington
as John Perry
the servant accused
of murdering his master
(c)BBC



The Campden Wonder

Thursday, April 28 at 10.02am on Radio 4

Peter Jeffrey teams up with Richard Derrington to star in this 16 th Century murder mystery about a servant accused of murdering his master - although the body was never found.

More details inside

BBC RADIO

Live 5

News & Sport
909 & 693 MW

Picture shows: Diane Youdale
(c) BBC

Hot Pursuits

Saturday, April 23 at 6.05am on Radio 5

Diane Youdale alias Jet from the Gladiators in 'Hot Pursuits' this week tries her hand at white water rafting in Wales.

telling tales

This serials and readings page runs from Sunday 24 to Friday 29 April and was compiled by Stephanie Hardwick.

SUNDAY

R4 Poetry Please 5.30-5.50pm
Peter Kelly and Polly Hemingway read listeners' poetry requests on the theme of sport when Simon Rae introduces 'Poetry Please'.

R4 Reading Aloud - Political Gossip: Diary of a Cabinet Minister 8.30-9.00pm
Denis Quilley reads Richard Crossman's diaries, which give a unique insight into the politicians" manipulation of each other during the Labour Government's turmoil over the issue of the sale of arms to South Africa in 1967.

MONDAY

R4 Short Story - The Woodcutter's Upright Son 4.45-5.00pm
One winter morning the woodcutter's son decides to take events into his own hands having had to watch the annual slaughter of the deer in the forest for another year. Meredith Davies reads Brigid Brophy's tale.

R4 Book at Bedtime - The Devil's Own Work 10.45-11.00pm
Each evening this week Ian Holm reads from Alan Judd's prize-winning novella. 'The Devil's Own Work', set in London and France, and spanning 30 years, tells the story of the narrator's curious relationship with Edward - who seems destined for success despite having no ambition, but then he meets Tyrell ...

TUESDAY

R4 Short Story - Proceedings 4.45-5.00pm
"Thrift being mutually necessary, we opted for a do-it-yourself arrangement, which suited me fine since I disliked solicitors and their dusty offices. And their close-set eyes." Chris Barlas's short story is read by David Horovitch.

WEDNESDAY

R4 The Wodehouse Letters 10.02-10.30am FM
In this, the last of three programmes, Simon Cadell reads a selection of letters from Wodehouse to Guy Bolton revealing insights into the business of songwriting, royalties and rivalries.

R4 Short Story - Forward to Fundamentals 4.45-5.00pm
The big-hearted dinner lady, Mrs Petula Bird is heading for trouble because of her kindness in Michael Carson's tale, read by Linda Bassett.

THURSDAY

R4 Short Story - The Public-House 4.45-5.00pm
The boy liked the public-house, but the publican's sister made him feel cautious in Rhys Davies's tale, read by Andy Rivers.

R4 Silver Threads 8.45-9.00pm
Former armed robber John Williams continues reading from this autobiography 'Silver Threads'.

FRIDAY

R4 Short Story - Monty's Revolver 4.45-5.00pm
A collector finds himself at the wrong end of Monty's service revolver when it comes up for auction. Joe Dunlop reads Colin Dexter's tale.

readings

BBC RADIO SPORT

SATURDAY

Sport On Five 1.04-6.00pm
Coverage of the FA Premiership and Endsleigh League programmes plus rugby union from the Courage League - where Bath meet Harlequins and Leicester play London Irish - and the Heineken National League, with Swansea against Aberavon.

John Inverdale also looks at racing, which includes coverage of the Whitbread Gold Cup at Sandown Park and action from three other afternoon and two evening meetings.

SUNDAY

Sunday Sport 2.04-6.00pm
Live commentary from Blackburn Rovers FA Premiership match against QPR at 4.00pm, as Eleanor Oldroyd also hosts more football action from the Autoglass Trophy final between Swansea and Huddersfield at Wembley. The programme also looks at New Zealand's Test cricketers as the tourists arrive in England.

MONDAY

Champion Sport 8.00-10.00pm
Jon Champion introduces live coverage from the FA Premiership programme, which includes the local derby match between Manchester City and Manchester United, plus a round-up from the European soccer scene and snooker from the Embassy World Professional Championship.

TUESDAY

Football Plus 7.35-10.00pm
Jonathan Legard hosts live action from the evening's football action, plus cricket reports from the preliminary round of the Benson and Hedges Cup and snooker from the Embassy World Professional Championship.

WEDNESDAY

Trevor Brooking's Football Night 7.35-10.00pm
British and European football action tonight (April 27) as West Ham play Blackburn, Newcastle meet Aston Villa and QPR face Arsenal in the FA Premiership. Trevor also looks at the Euro-scene with the first leg of the UEFA Cup Final and the semi-finals of the Champions League and there are reports from the Embassy World Professional Snooker Championship.

This Sports Page runs from Saturday April 23 to Wednesday April 27.

Compiled by Mike Day.

For further information contact Mike Day Radio 5 Live Sports Publicity on 071-765 262

the week ahead

This page was compiled by Karen Rose and runs from Saturday 23rd - Friday 29th April.

SATURDAY

R4 Tokyo Correction 2.30-4.00pm
A second chance to hear Norman Rodway, James Grout and Carole Boyd in Guy Meredith's comedy thriller set in the world of art dealing.

SUNDAY

R3 Ice In Wonderland 7.30-8.50pm
Robin Thomson and Wendy Seager lead a strong cast in Robin Lloyd Jones's first radio play which won the Radio Times Award for the best new radio script in 1992. As the good ship Argo sails a stormy sea, a member of the crew- a once upon a time actor called Wall is convinced that his only road to success is at the roulette wheel or faro table, through a special number given to him by Lady Luck.

R4 Children's Drama TinTin 6.30-7.00pm
Professor Calculus (Stephen Moore) has been kidnapped by the Bordurian secret service and Tintin and Snowy are hot on his trail in part two of 'The Calculus Affair'.

MONDAY

R4 Gabrielle and the Gargoyles 7.45-9.15pm
Barbara Machin's provoking portrait of a brutal medieval world where a woman (Maureen Beattie) sees prejudice for what it is - and is compelled to do something about. Music is composed and performed by a cappella group, 'Sense Of Sound.'

TUESDAY

R4 The Bliss Business 2.02-2.32pm
Mandy and Carol are sisters and opposites -as one tries to establish the ultimate bliss business (wedding frocks for the big day) the other tries to cope with the breakdown of her marriage. Tracie Bennett, Eileen O' Brien and Ann Rye feature in this new play by Frances McNeil.

WEDNESDAY

R4 Election Lives 2.02-2.47pm
This second drama in the new 'Play For Today' strand is broadcast on the day of the South African elections. It follows the fortunes of a South African/British Family living in London during the build up to the election. Producer John Dryden has made the drama in the same way as a montage radio documentary and as political events unfold, scenes reflecting developments will be written-in right up to the moment of broadcast.The writer is Matthew Solon.and the cast are: Juanita Waterman, Joe Dunlop, Colin McFarlane, Don Gilet, John Matchukusa, Nina Wadia and Adjoa Andoh.

THURSDAY

R4FM The Three Musketeers 10.02-10.30am
Timothy Spall, Anton Lesser, Robert Glenister, Jamie Glover and Imelda Staunton head the cast of this scintillating new six-part dramatisation by James Saunders, of Alexandre Dumas' immortal classic. The series moves with breath-taking pace from the cut-and-thrust world of the impoverished Musketeers to the boudoirs of Dukes, Queens and Cardinals.

R4 The Campden Wonder 2.02-3.00pm
Richard Derrington, the late Mark Hebden from the Archers is reincarnated as the accused murderer John Perry, in his play, co-written with Roger Hume (Bert Fry from the Archers) which follows the mysterious story of the servant who is put on trial for murdering his master and who in turn, accuses his brother and his mother. Peter Jeffrey also features.

FRIDAY

R4 The Mayor Of Casterbridge Part Three 2.30-3.30pm
Michael Henchard and Donald Farfrae become rivals in love as well as in business -and Henchard is determined to win, even if he has to call upon the help of a conjuror and a church choir..

drama

Achers of Loaf and Even as We Speak in session.

2.00-4.30pm
Andy Kershaw

Atlanta guitarist Robert Ward provides classic blues music and Iris DeMent, the outstanding Kansas City singer/songwriter performs her latest sounds.

Presenter/Andy Kershaw, Producer/John Peel

4.30 - 7.00pm
John Peel

John Peel features fuzzy guitars and power pop hooks from Achers of Loaf from Chapel Hill, North Carolina and pure pop is provided by Even as We Speak from Sydney Australia.

Presenter/John Peel, Producer/Mike Hawkes

Primal Scream at Barrowlands.

7.00-11.00pm
Johnnie Walker (including In Concert at 9.00 pm)

Primal Scream, are 'In Concert' at 9.00pm tonight. The band were recorded at Glasgow's Barrowlands and perform their current hit 'Rocks.'

Presenter/Johnnie Walker, Producer/Phil Ross

11.00pm-1.00am
Essential Mix

Tonight's Essential Mixer of dance club sensations is Sure Is Pure.

Producer/ West End Productions

Vintage comedy from Al Read and Billy Cotton.

2.03-3.00pm
The Golden Days of Radio

Memories of Sunday lunchtimes and the Light Programme are evoked in this week's hour of classic comedy from the archives.

A 1966 edition of 'The Al Read Show' stars the multi-voiced Lancashire comedian who "looks at life" in hospital, the Fire Brigade and musical interludes from Susan Maughan and the Countrymen.

Hot on the heels of 'The Al Read Show' comes 'The Billy Cotton Band Show' and the familiar cry of 'Wakey-Wakey'. This 1958 edition stars regulars Alan Breeze, Rita Williams, Kathie Kay and The Bandits and includes an `operatic' rendition of 'I've Got a Lovely Bunch of Coconuts'!

Presenter/Robin Boyle, Co-ordinating Producers/Anthony Wills and Richard Edis

Russell Davies tells the story of the great British Empire Exhibition.

4.03-5.00pm
Wembling at Wembley

To mark the 70th anniversary (today, April 23) of the opening of the Great British Empire exhibition at Wembley, by George V and Queen Mary, Russell Davies tells the story of the exhibition's growth and scope.

An exhibition of paradoxes, it celebrated the Empire in all its 19th century opulence while at the same time championed the forward thinking innovation that was to cause its demise.

Wembling at Wembley *(4.03-5.00pm continued)*

The exhibition had a profound effect on life and thought in the Twenties, as it coincided with the discovery of the tomb of Tutankhamun and the growth of radio. Russell Davies sets the historical context and unearths some of the stories surrounding it - like the Newcastle miners who came down for the Cup Final (Newcastle v Aston Villa) and visited the exhibition before the match; they got so carried away with the mining exhibit that they missed the start of the match! The opening ceremony, which was broadcast to public areas throughout the land, was the first occasion of its sort in broadcasting, and the first time the nation had heard the King's voice!

Some contemporary recordings by Clara Butt, Edward Elgar and The De Groot Orchestra are included as musical memories of the era.

Presenter/Russell Davies, Producer/Roy Oakshott

Maureen McGovern who duetted with Placido Domingo on 'A Love Until the End of Time' in cabaret.

6.03-7.00pm

Maureen McGovern In Concert

Maureen McGovern, the voice behind the music of Seventies disaster films - 'The Poseidon Adventure' and 'The Towering Inferno' performs a selection of stage and screen favourites at London's Cafe Royal.

McGovern's most recent achievements include a duet with Placido Domingo on the hit recording of 'A Love Until the End Of Time' and her recording of 'The Continental' with its familiar Champagne popping opening.

The Oscar-winning singer will be accompanied by Kenneth Bichel on piano, Phil Todd on sax and Pete Morgan on bass and the programme will include favourites, 'New York, New York', 'The Things We Did Last Summer' and 'Some People'.

Producer/Graham Pass

Bruce Willis on 'Striking Distance'.

7.03-7.30pm

Cinema 2

Hollywood star, Bruce Willis talks to Lorelei King about his new film 'Striking Distance' in tonight's (April 23) 'Cinema 2'.

Amanda Huntley looks at fashion in the movies and Ken Locke catches up on all the gossip and takes a peek at television films. 'Cinema 2' tracks down a 'Rocky Horror Show' touring company and Mike Reynolds gets the low-down on Hollywood news.

Presenter/Lorelei King, Producer/Barry Littlechild

John Dankworth and the National Youth Music Theatre and Norwich Students' Jazz Orchestra, Pete Skellern, Richard Stilgoe and more pay tribute to those young musicians tragically killed in the M40 minibus disaster.

7.30-9.30pm

The Hagley Appeal Schools Prom

Each year, the organisation 'Music For Youth' fills the Royal Albert Hall for three nights of the Schools Prom. Tonight's (April 23) special concert has been arranged in aid of a new music wing for Hagley Roman Catholic High School, as a lasting tribute to 13 young lives tragically lost in the M40 minibus disaster, which happened after last November's concert.

Amongst the 400 young British musicians and singers are the Guildhall Junior Brass Band, with special guest Peter Skellern; the Nicolaou Chamber Ensemble; the National Youth Music Theatre and Norwich Students' Jazz Orchestra, who will be joined by John Dankworth.

The Hagley Appeal Schools Prom *(7.30-9.30pm continued)*

The concert will be introduced by Bob Holness, Richard Stilgoe and conductor Antony Hopkins with special guest appearances by Kenny Baker, Sian Edwards, 'Blue Peter's' Diane Jordan and past winners of the 'BBC's Young Musician of the Year' competition, Nicholas Daniel and Nicola Loud.

Presenters/Bob Holness, Richard Stilgoe, Antony Hopkins, Co-producers/Jane Ward and Geoffrey Hewitt, BBC Pebble Mill

Mia Farrow and Peter Ustinov talk to Sheridan Morley.

11.03-Midnight

Radio Two Arts Programme

Mia Farrow and Sir Peter Ustinov are Sheridan Morley's guests on tonight's (April 23) 'Radio Two Arts Programme'.

Mia Farrow talks about her career and her latest film 'Widow's Peak' in which she stars alongside Joan Plowright and Natasha Richardson. 'Widow's Peak' follows the events in a Twenties Irish Spa resort which is ruled by women, almost all of whom are widows.

Following a lively round up of news of the arts world, reviews, and music - Sheridan Morley talks to Sir Peter Ustinov whose one man show as just opened in London.

Presenter/Sheridan Morley, Producers/Stella Hanson, Madeleine Cuming

Star-studded cast for Strauss/Hofmannsthal opera.

6.30-9.30pm

Live from the Met - Ariadne auf Naxos

Live Opera

Richard Strauss's 'Ariadne auf Naxos' is musical director James Levine's choice for the final production in the 20-week 'Live from the Met' season. There's another starry cast on the New York stage headed by Carol Vaness as Ariadne, Tracy Dahl as Zerbinetta, Wolfgang Schmidt as Bacchus, Teresa Stratas as the Composer and Hermann Prey as the Music Master.

'Ariadne auf Naxos' was originally designed by librettist Hugo von Hofmannsthal as a one-act opera to follow his translation of Moliere's comedy 'Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme', and that's how it started life in 1912. But four years later Strauss and Hofmannsthal produced a prologue to set the scene: the Major Domo (speaking role taken by Nico Castel) announces that two entertainments by an opera company and a commedia dell'arte troupe will have to be performed simultaneously in order to finish in time for a fireworks display.

The opera is set on the island of Naxos where Ariadne waits for death, abandoned by Theseus. Zerbinetta and her companions try to cheer her up but eventually the young god Bacchus arrives and Ariadne acquires a new lover.

During the interval at about 7.20pm, Peggy Reynolds investigates the female companions of Dionysus in 'Raging Women and the Golden Wreath'. Nurturing nurses, raging Bacchae, lost and betrayed Ariadne made immortal. Who were the women in the lives of Dionysus, the God of Wine and Revelling?

Presenter/Peter Allen, Producer/Clive Bennett, Interval producer/Bella Bannerman

Graeme Fife's lively documentary on the Greek gods.

9.30-9.40pm

Greek Orthodox Series: The Gods and After - Godslots

New Series

Can you name any modern Greek writer apart from the two nobel prize-winners, novelist Nikos Kazantazakis or poet Odyseus Elytis? How about any young writer working in Greece today? Radio 3 sets out to fill this gap with two lively literary documentaries, and, in a cluster of programmes broadcast in and around the Orthodox Holy Week (24 April - 1 May) to relate past and present, ancient myths and modern worship.

There are two sound portraits of Greek Easter celebrations - one in Athens and one on the Ionian island of Kythera - a glance back at the philosophers who were scrutinizing the universe before Socrates; and David Melling presents a series, 'Heaven Upon Earth', based on the services for Holy Week in the Patriarchal Church of Constantinople. This short season opens with a series of ironic reflections, 'Godslots'.

Yes, you can read the word at least two ways in Graeme Fife's witty series of rendez-vous with the Greek Gods - all played by Edward ('The Man in Black') De Souza and Anna Massey. Their irreverent monologues/duologues provide five Aegean dips into the minds of Zeus, Nemesis, Pan, Hades and Persephone, and Athene.

What did Zeus really think of Promentheus? Why is Nemesis so cross? What makes Pan tick? What is it like to say goodbye in Hell? And why is the Owl-Goddess afraid of spiders? All questions will be answered in 'Godslots' written by playwright, classicist and Trireme oarsman Graeme Fife. Naturally they begin tonight at the top - with Zeus.

Readers/Anna Massey and Edward De Souza, Producer/Piers Plowright

2.30-4.00pm

Playhouse - The Tokyo Correction

Guy Meredith's comedy-thriller was first heard last year and features the artist Adam Bax, who is returning to London after 10 years on the run in Spain. He soon found himself tangled up in a major art deception, that leads to murder. Bax is played by Norman Rodway and James Grout plays Quartermain.

Director/Cherry Cookson

Eddie Shah and Dennis Skinner MP debate the state of Britain and trade union power.

4.02-4.30pm

What If ...?

In what the producer Ian Bell describes as a "lively" debate, entrepreneur Eddie Shah and MP Dennis Skinner speculate on what the state of the country would be today if the trades unions had kept their grip on power.

In 1966 Harold Wilson won an election with a majority of almost 100 seats. But four years later he was crushed at the polls. Dennis Skinner believes the defeat could be attributed in part to Labour's pay freeze. But what if Wilson had allowed the unions to continue with wage bargaining? Would unemployment be high, or low? Would the unions still hold their power? And would we live in a fairer society?

Eddie Shah, whose own run-in with the unions in the Eighties led to violent scenes on the picket lines in Warrington, has his own strong views to put to Dennis Skinner. Chairman Christopher Andrew keeps the warring factions apart.

Presenter/Christopher Andrew, Producer/Ian Bell BBC Bristol

Henry Blofeld and Rachel Heyhoe-Flint wax lyrical on 'Owzthat'.

5.40-5.50pm

In Celebration

What better way for cricket lovers to shy away from the horrors occurring in the West Indies than to play their very own Test series? With just a couple of steel dice, a pen and a sheet of paper, the outcome can be very different, as cricket fans have discovered over more than 60 years' playing of the game of 'Owzthat!'

Originally a couple of cylindrical steel dice with flat faces, one bearing numbers (for runs scored) or the dreaded 'Owzthat!', causing the other die to be thrown to see how the wicket was lost, they were first packed into a small gramophone needle tin. William Lindop & Co of Manchester had bought up an obsolete stock in the early Thirties, finding that the small size made the game ideal for popping into a pocket for use while travelling, or on a school desk during break time.

Henry Blofield (or 'Blowers' as he is known to 'Test Match Special' aficionados) and former England ladies captain Rachel Heyhoe-Flint are just two of the fans of the game waxing lyrical about this small but much-loved object.

Producer/David Prest

Paul Doust on the behind the scenes action for children's TV.

7.20-7.50pm

Kaleidoscope

In 'Saturday Morning Showdown' Paul Doust spends a week behind the scenes of a live children's programme in the run-up to transmission. He discovers how the frenetic mix of stars, sketches, bands, cartoons, quizzes, 'phone-ins and videos is arrived at and just how taxing filling three hours of TV for kids really is.

Presenter/Paul Doust, Producer/Adrian Washbourne

Win a clutch of tickets.

6.05-6.30am

Dirty Tackle

Nick Fisher goes salt water fly fishing in Florida but finds the time in between to present 'Catch of the Week' and a round-up of all that is new in angling.

Presenter/Nick Fisher, Producer/Julie Ball

12.15-1.04pm

Sportscall

This week the sports locker is bulging with tickets for top sporting events! Dominik Diamond invites you to join him on the green for the play off for tickets to the B&H International Open plus your chance to win tickets for all four days of the Badminton Horse Trials. So get to your phone and dial on 0345 909 693.

Presenter/Dominik Diamond, Producer/Helen Styles

Rugby Union football and Snooker.

1.04-6.00pm

Sport On Five

There's full coverage of the FA Premiership and Endsleigh League programmes and rubgy union. In the Courage League - Bath meet Harlequins and Leicester play London Irish whilst Swansea meet Aberavon in the Heineken National League.

Ian Payne also looks at the Embassy World Professional Snooker Championships at the half-way stage, while racing includes coverage of the Whitbread Gold Cup at Sandown Park and action from three other afternoon and two evening meetings. Listeners will be kept up to date with cricket during the third day's play in the England A match against Middlesex.

Presenter/Ian Payne, Producer/Graeme Reid Davies

6.06-7.30pm

Six-O-Six

David Mellor hosts the premier 'phone-in for football fans.

Presenter/David Mellor, Producer/Shane Stitt

Joni Earekson Tada, paralysed from the neck down from the age of 17, talks about her work with disabled people and coming to terms with her Christian faith.

7.30-9.30am

Good Morning Sunday

Don Maclean talks to Joni Earekson Tada in this morning's (April 24) 'Good Morning Sunday'.

Joni sustained multiple injuries after a diving accident when she was 17-years-old. After years of treatment and spells in hospital, Joni a quadraplegic, has devoted her life to God and to helping others who are disabled.

Born in 1950, Joni's hopes and dreams were shattered by the accident. She struggled to come to terms with the long term effects of her paralysis, her dependence on others and her physical immobility. She says: "I had accepted the fate that I would never walk again. But I had believed I could still join the ranks of those handicapped persons who drive cars, make meals, and put their arms around someone they love." All these things were denied to Joni as she was paralysed from the neck downwards.

Just a short time before the accident, Joni had prayed to God: "Lord, if you're really there, do something in my life that will change me and turn me around .. I want you to work in my life for real ... please do something in my life to turn it around."

After the accident, Joni faced the questions posed by her own Christian faith. She went through terrible depression. She prayed for some accident or miracle to kill her. "The mental and physical anguish was as unbearable as the physical torture."

She tells Don about how she used to be in such pain at nights - mental or physical - that she wanted to cry, but this caused such frustration because if she cried there was no one to wipe her eyes or help her blow her nose. In those circumstances, Joni would "visualise Jesus standing beside me... I imagined Him as a strong, comforting person, saying specifically to me, "Lo, I am with you always."

Presenter/Don Maclean, Producer/Michael Wakelin, BBC North

A harpist and clarinettist battle it out.

4.03-4.30pm

Radio 2 Young Musician of the Year

Leonard Pearcey introduces sessions by harpist Tudur Eames from the Guildhall School of Music and Drama and clarinettist Teresa Whiffen from the Royal Northern College of Music in this afternoon's semi-final of Radio Two's 'Young Musician of the Year'.

Presenter/Leonard Pearcey, Producer/Ruth Cubbin

Charlie Chester talks to Peter Haigh.

5.03-7.00pm

Charlie Chester - 60 Years in the Business

Charlie Chester next week celebrates his 80th birthday and the 25th birthday of his programme on Radio Two.

As a prelude to that special occasion listeners have another chance to hear a programme recorded in 1988 to mark Charlie's 60 years as a professional entertainer.

In the programme Charlie talks to Peter Haigh about his early life, going into show business, the music halls, the war years, and the almost accidental beginnings of his Radio Two programme 'Sunday Soapbox'. He also talks about his hobbies as a painter, writer and composer.

Presenter/Charlie Chester, Producer/David Welsby, BBC Pebble Mill

Michael Freedland on the life of Maurice Chevalier.

10.03pm-12.00am

The Sunday Arts Programme: Maurice Chevalier - The Man with the Straw Hat and the Crazy Accent

Michael Freedland takes a look at the legendary French entertainer Maurice Chevalier in tonight's 'Sunday Arts Programme'.

Chevalier was one of the most amazing showmen of his time but he also gained a few reputations over the years including being the stingiest man in entertainment and was allegedly a Nazi collaborator.

A product of the Paris slums Chevalier achieved his greatest fame in his early showbusiness days, wearing a straw hat, filling music halls with his strong French accent.

Freedland was the last journalist to interview Chevalier before his death in 1972 and part of his interview is featured in the programme along with interviews with people who knew him well, including other performers, directors and even his girlfriends. The programme also features many of those famous Chevalier songs - in the famous Chevalier accent.

Presenter/Michael Freedland, Producer/Stella Hanson

David Melling on the ancient music, traditions and ceremonies of Holy Week.

7.00-7.25am

Greek Orthodox Season: Heaven Upon Earth

New Series

David Melling follows the ancient music and ceremonies of Orthodox Holy Week from the blessing of palms at Palm Sunday (in this opening programme) through to the triumphal singing of 'Christ is risen - Christos anesti' during the all-night service of the resurrection one week later. The basis of the programme is the singing of the Patriachal Church in Constantinople.

During this gruelling week, the people follow the sufferings of Christ through the procession of the icon of the Man of Sorrows during the first days of the week reaching their greatest intensity during the service of the 12 Gospels, when all the biblical narratives of the Crucifiction are read in turn.

Despite the complex ceremonies, the events are given in music, poetry and iconography a remarkable immediacy, reflected in the frequent use of the word 'Today...' in the hymns. Despite the real sense of endurance which comes from the almost total fasting and long hours in church, there is no sense of despair, no-one is asked to pretend that they do not know the outcome. Sustaining themselves with the thought of Easter joy, they frequently sing 'We venerate your passion, O Christ, show us the glory of your resurrection'.

Presenter/David Melling, Producer/Graham Dixon

Delius, Debussy, Bruckner and Alonso Lobo's Ave Maria.

7.25-9.00am

Sacred and Profane

There's a faint atmosphere of Spring in Paul Guinery's sequence of morning music, 'Sacred and Profane' which today begins at the later time of 7.25am. It contains Delius's sublime 'Walk to the Paradise Gardens' and Debussy's 'La Damoiselle Elue'. On the chamber side, Stephen Isserlis plays Chopin's Cello Sonata in G minor, and Alfred Brendel starts the programme with Haydn's Fantasia in C. 'Sacred and Profane' continues its juxtaposition of Spanish polyphony and Bruckner's motets with two of the finest examples of the series: Alonso Lobo's intricate 'Ave Maria' and Bruckner's well-known 'Christus Factus Est'.

Presenter/Paul Guinery, Producer/Gautam Rangarajam

Riccardo Chailly conducts Mahler's Symphony No 7.

3.30-5.05pm

Great Orchestras of the World -

Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra

Live Concert

Mahler's Symphony No 7 is the single work in this afternoon's live relay from the Barbican, the last in the IMG Artist's series 'Great Orchestras of the World' presented in association with Radio 3. It is played by the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra under Riccardo Chailly.

While Mahler's music fell into obsurity following his death in 1911, the Concertgebouw Orchestra under its then conductor, Willem Mengelberg, continued to play and record the Austrian composer's unfashionable scores in Amsterdam. Later, Bernard Haitink built on Mengelberg's Mahlerian legacy, and that tradition has been further enriched by the orchestra's current Principal Conductor, Riccardo Chailly.

Producer/William Robson

Robin Lloyd Jones's play about a greek sailor's search for Lady Luck.

7.30-8.50pm

Greek Orthodox Season: Sunday Play - Ice in Wonderland

As the good ship Argo sails a stormy sea, a member of the crew - a once upon a time actor called Wall - seeks his magic number. Convinced that his only road to success at the roulette wheel of the faro table is through a special number given to him by Lady Luck, he wanders the ship as it voyages towards the gold rush town of Ophir. There the night is perpetual as a result of the northern latitudes. The Captain's daughter, Lamentations, meets Wall as they wander through a hold full of empty barrels, and Wall is no longer sure if his only love is Lady Luck.

Robin Thomson and Wendy Seager lead a cast which includes Bob Dougherty, Bill Riddoch, Raymond Ross, Paul Morrow, Irene MacDougall and Amanda Whitehead. The play, which won the 1992 Radio Times Award for the best new radio drama script, is directed in Edinburgh by Hamish Wilson.

Although 'Ice in Wonderland' is his first radio play, Robin Lloyd Jones has been working as a professional writer for a number of years. He has two novels, a children's book and several works of non-fiction to his credit.

Director/ Hamish Wilson BBC Scotland

Quentin Agnew- Larios on an unusual pig farm.

7.15-7.40am

On Your Farm

When Quentin Agnew-Larios sits down for breakfast at his home, just a few miles from the Rock of Gibraltar the meal, typically Spanish, consists of rubbing garlic cloves into a toasted bread roll and then dowsing it in olive oil. Sylvia Smith holds her breath and ventures near in this week's 'On Your Farm'.

In Spain, Quentin has found a novel way to farm among the trees that dominate his farm. Pigs roam freely and snuffle up the high protein acorns that fall from the oaks. However, he doesn't own these pigs - he's done a deal with another local farmer whereby the pigs are weighed before being let loose on the land. Once fattened, they are weighed again and the profit from the gain is split between farmer and landowner.

On Your Farm *(7.15-7.40am continued)*

After they are slaughtered, the pigs are taken to the mountains where they're air-dried and cured. The ham from these 'Patin Negras' is a speciality and much sought-after as a Spanish delicacy. Quentin Agnew-Lario's promises to serve some up for lunch - providing Sylvia has room following her continental breakfast.

Presenter/Sylvia Smith, Producer/Gill Powell

Graham McPherson alias Suggs, lead singer of Madness, returns to the farming community in Wales where he spent three years of his childhood.

11.45am-12.15pm

Sentimental Journey

Graham McPherson is probably better known to music fans as Suggs, frontman for the 'Nutty Boys' of Madness, the group which had a string of hits in the Eighties with their ska-tinged pop. Although he and the group are synonymous with Camden Town in North London, when Suggs was eight he was whisked away from his urban playground to spend three years in a farming community in deepest Wales.

There he discovered a rural idyll of forests, fields, cowpats and sheep, completely alien to the backstreets and traffic of London. Now, over 25 years later, he returns to the Welsh countryside where he tells Arthur Smith of his rural childhood experiences, and why he's a city boy at heart.

Presenter/Arthur Smith, Producer/Sara Jane Hall

Trevor McDonald castaway.

12.15-12.55pm

Desert Island Discs

'News at Ten' frontman Trevor McDonald pops in to chat to Sue Lawley about his life and achievements. He'll be choosing his favourite eight pieces of music, a book and a luxury to take with him to the mythical isle.

Presenter/Sue Lawley, Producer/Olivia Seligman

Sporting poetry.

5.30-5.50pm

Poetry Please

A sporting special from the 'Poetry Please' team, who thought they'd be stumped to find enough requests to fill a 20 minute fixture. But presenter Simon Rae and readers Peter Kelly and Polly Hemingway came from behind to find poetry that jogs, stands in goal, bowls, jumps and plays badminton. And if you think it's all over with that list, the programme has requests for work by a poet who is also a gold-medallist fencer, a poem built around dialogue between two sports commentators, and another by Roger McGough set on a tennis court.

Presenter/Simon Rae, Producer/Julian Wilkinson BBC Bristol

Denis Quilley reads from Richard Crossman's diaries.

8.30-9.00pm

Reading Aloud - Political Gossip: Diary of a Cabinet Minister

Richard Crossman's diaries could be said to have started a trend. When first published they offered a real insight into the conflict and division within Cabinet. In December 1967 the Labour Government was in turmoil over the sale of arms to South Africa. Crossman reveals how the politicians manipulated their colleagues and the press in their constant vying for power. The reader is Denis Quilley.

Reader/Denis Quilley, Director/Hilary Dunn

Brian Lancaster on Judaism and God.

11.45pm-12midnight

Seeds of Faith: Fire From Sinai

Brian Lancaster looks through his psychologist's eyes at how his Jewish faith relates the image of God to 'The Creation of Self' in the second part of 'Seeds of Faith: Fire from Sinai'.

Brian Lancaster, a Research Psychologist form John Moores University in Liverpool, seeks to explore the relationship between science and religion, using his own discipline and showing how useful it can be in illustrating his own faith, Judaism.

Presenter/Brian Lancaster, Producer/Amanda Hancox BBC North

Gareth Jones welcomes Right Said Fred and Wendy Carlof for a techno-music extravaganza.

6.05-6.30am

Hot Pursuits

Diane Youdale takes to water though not quite like a duck! This week she has a go at white water rafting in Wales and finds out what you need to take up this exciting white knuckle sport.

Presenter/Diane Youdale, Producer/Helen Styles

12.15-1.00pm

The Big Byte

In 1968 Walter Carlof wrote 'Switched-on Bark', one of the first pieces of music to use a moog synthesiser. Over a quarter of a century later, Walter, who is now Wendy Carlof, has updated her original composition using the latest digital technology. Joining 'The Big Byte' for a music special, Wendy traces the evolution of her music.

Gareth is also joined by musicians and bands, including Right Said Fred, for a 'Big Byte' techno-music extravaganza and he talks to Liam Watson of Toe Rag studios in London which uses Fifties recording equipment. The Eighties and Nineties are seen by many in the music industry as the lost decades of rock thanks to the introduction of microchip technology.

Presenter/Gareth Jones, Producer/Julian Mayers

Garry Richardson takes the heat out of the week's sporting fixtures.

1.05-2.04pm

You Cannot Be Serious!

Garry Richardson and stand-up comedian Kevin Day will be taking the heat out of this weekend's big fixtures. There will be chat, features and interviews and generally a not very serious look at sport.

As the triumphant (!) England cricket team arrives back from the West Indies, Garry takes a look back a the tour. And Crystal Palace fan, Kevin Day will be looking forward to Monday's Manchester United v Manchester City local derby.

Presenter/Garry Richardson, Producer/Richard Wilson

2.04-6.00pm

Sunday Sport

Live commentary from Blackburn Rovers FA Premiership match against QPR, as Eleanor Oldroyd also hosts more football action from the Autoglass Trophy final between Swansea and Huddersfield at Wembley.

'Sunday Sport' also looks at New Zealand's Test cricketers as the tourists arrive in England, and there are reports from the last day of the match between Middlesex and the England 'A' team at Lords. Snooker comes from the mid-way stages of the Embassy World Professional Championship.

Presenter/Eleanor Oldroyd, Producer/Jill Pulsford

More fantasy teams.

6.05-6.35pm

Fantasy Football League

More trips through the worlds of make believe with your top Fantasy League teams ... Have you got the dream team to get the manager's talking? Call Dominik Diamond on 0345 909 693.

Presenter/Dominik Diamond, Producer/Helen Styles

Single Mums on Corfu.

6.35-7.00pm

Carol Smillie's Blue Skies

Carol Smillie and Alison Rice hear about the delights and difficulties of two single mums travelling to Corfu with their children on this week's programme. And listeners can still share their holiday travel tips, comments and questions on 071 765 5892. For a fact sheet, write to Room 1055, BBC Broadcasting House, London, W1A 1AA.

Presenter/Carol Smillie, Producer/Peter Nunn

11.30am-2.00pm

Debbie Thrower

Jimmy Young's still on holiday and for the third and final week, Debbie Thrower talks to the people who make the news.

Presenter/Debbie Thrower, Producer/John Gurnett

9.00-10.05am

Composer of the Week - Oliver Messiaen

Anthony Pitts introduces music by Messiaen inspired by the sights and sounds of nature.

Radio 3 marks the second anniversary of Oliver Messiaen's death this week (he died on 28 April 1992, aged 82), with an extravagant celebration of his music. It began yesterday with the work Messiaen wrote in a concentration camp, 'Quartet pour la fin du fin du temps', (2.40pm) and continued last night in 'Choir Works' (at 9.55pm) with one of his major choral pieces, 'La Transfiguration de Notre Seigneur Jesus-Christ'. Messiaen is also 'Composer of the Week'.

In today's programme 'From the Canyons' Anthony Pitts introduces music inspired by the sights and sounds of nature, including 'Reveil des Oiseaux', and resonances of the Creation itself from 'Visions de Amen'. 'Love Suffers Long' tomorrow features songs of love and death from 'Harawi' and music for six Ondes Martenots.

On Wednesday in 'Combat De La Mort et de La Vie' Pitts follows Messiaen's struggle to let "melody reign supreme". Between the revolution of 'Mode de valeurs et d'intensites' and the extravagant celebration of his opera 'St Francis of Assisi', saints and birds sing and dance, and Cetti's Warbler begins a season of birdsong from 'Catalogue d'Oiseaux'. Thursday's programme, entitled 'The Colour of Love' includes 'Cing Rechants' and the climax of 'Turangalila' and Friday's'... To the Stars' begins with 'Et Exspecto Resurrectionem Mortuorum'.

Presenter/Producer Anthony Pitts

Mel Hill presents this 10-part series on the jazz producer and promoter Norman Granz.

4.30-5.00pm

Norman's Conquest

New Series

Mel Hill presents a new ten-part series, on that great man of Jazz, Norman Granz. To quote Oscar Peterson, "He's not a performer, he's not a composer, he's not even a musician, but Norman Granz is Mr Jazz. He's a producer and a promoter, and one of the most important, most influential figures in the history of Jazz."

Granz was responsible for the enormously popular and successful 'Jazz at the Philharmonic' tours which took a group of Jazz musicians around the world into auditoria previously reserved for classical music, and he greatly improved the image and earning capacity of those musicians. He also fought battles over racial equality. He produced his own records, eventually issuing them on his own Clef label, and then the Pablo and Verve labels. His most widely imitated innovation was the recording of Jazz at concerts, when all previously issued discs had been made in recording studios.

The series includes interviews with Dizzy Gillespie, Oscar Peterson, Red Callender, Ray Brown, Nesui Ertegen, Ira Gitler, JJ Johnson., Hank Jones, Leonard Feather, Herb Ellis, and others - not forgetting Norman Granz himself. This opening programme is repeated on Thursday at 10.15pm.

Presenter/Mel Hill, Producer/Derek Drescher

Tommy Pearson investigates melody.

5.00-5.15pm

The Music Machine

Tommy Pearson gets to the bottom of melody, in 'The Music Machine' this week. Today he talks to the young composers, Thomas Ades and Graham Fitkin, composers-in-residence with the Halle and Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestras respectively. They also offer their views on some of the finalists in this year's BBC 'Young Composer of the Year' competition, which was televised over Easter.

Tomorrow Tommy looks at what constitutes a good pop hit. Melody lingers on in later programmes when he interviews early music performers, violinist Andrew Manze and soprano Emma Kirkby, hears from Alen Ashraf about Indian vocal technique and music, and shares a keyboared with pianist Kathryn Stott.

Presenter/Tommy Pearson, Producers/Christina Pritchard, Chris Wines BBC Pebble Mill

Elgar Howarth conducts this new production of Sir Harrison Birtwistle's opera based on the 14th century poems 'Sir Gawain and the Green Knight'.

7.15-10.45pm

Gawain

One of the most acclaimed new operas of recent years was Sir Harrison Birtwistle's 'Gawain', premiered at Covent Garden in 1991. Now the Royal Opera reviews its stunning production, which combines with a mesmerizing score and David Horsent's clever libretto. Francois Le Roux as Gawain and John Tomlinson as the Green Knight reprise their roles under the baton of Elgar Howarth.

Based on the 14th century poem 'Sir Gawain and the Green Knight', the opera tells of the appearance, one Christmas Eve, of a supernatural figure who challenges King Arthur's Court to an exchange of blows and of the ensuing adventures of Gawain who must travel through a wilderness inhabited by legendary monsters to confront his destiny.

Producer/David Gallagher

12.25-12.55pm

Counterpoint

Last in Series

Ned Sherrin chairs the final round in the Radio 4 quiz that is based on musical knowledge. Three contestants, Jim Eccleson, Stephen Pearson and Colin Davenport engage in a musical battle to be the 'Counterpoint' champion of 1994.

Presenter/Ned Sherrin, Producer/Jo Clegg

Kaleidoscope celebrates its 21st birthday and Robert Dawson-Scott looks at John Betjeman's letters.

4.05-4.45pm

Kaleidoscope

'Kaleidoscope' comes of age this week when it celebrates its 21st birthday. As well as rounding up all the latest news on the current arts scene, there will be the odd nostalgic look back to the events of 1973, and some anecdotes about their experiences of the programme from some of the stars who have appeared on it over the years.

Today (April 25) Robert Dawson-Scott takes a look at the first volume of John Betjeman's letters, previously unpublished and introduced by his daughter Candida Lycett-Green, and reviews this month's classical music recordings.

Presenter/Robert Dawson-Scott, Producer/Adrian Washbourne

Maureen Beattie stars as a stonemason in Barbara Machin's play about a medieval woman's fight against prejudice.

7.45-9.15pm

Gabrielle and the Gargoyles

When a medieval woman set her face against society and breaks all the rules - nothing in her world can ever be the same again.

'Gabrielle and the Gargoyles' by Barbara Machin, charts the astonishing story of a young woman who discovered as a child that she had inherited her father's miraculous gift for stone carving - a talent she would be forbidden to use.

One harsh East Anglian winter, when the village stonemasons return to build a lavish chantry chapel for their dying Lord, Gabrielle seizes the opportunity to fulfil a dream. Carving secretly for her sick husband, Gabrielle's brilliant portraits of the corruption around her leads her into deadly danger. When she is banished by those who refuse to accept her, her passion becomes her obsession.

'Gabrielle and the Gargoyles' portrays a brutal medieval world where a woman sees prejudice for what it is and is compelled to do something about it. Out of her time, and led by a stone angel, Gabrielle dares to be a woman in a man's world - and human voices recede as the statues start to talk back.

Maureen Beattie stars as Gabrielle and music is composed and performed by the Liverpool based a cappella group Sense of Sound, following their debut with music for Radio 4's four-part drama collaboration 'The Crack'.

Director/Kate Rowland, BBC North

Two Hotel managers on their jobs past and present.

9.15-9.30pm

The New Recruit

Steve Grant, manger of the Eden Arms Hotel, Rushyford, County Durham, meets the man who used to have his job years ago. Barry Hawley, now manager of the Swallow Gosforth Park Hotel, Newcastle, and who is approaching retirement, shares his wealth of experience with new recruit Steve. Returning to his former patch, Barry discovers that it's not just the wallpaper which has changed.

Producer/Lucy Lunt BBC Bristol

Ian Holm reads Alan Judd's novella.

10.45-11.00pm

A Book at Bedtime - The Devil's Own Work

New Series

Ian Holm makes a welcome return to Radio 4 to read the five-part adaptation of Alan Judd's novella, 'The Devil's Own Work'.

It is the narrator's account of his 35-year friendship with Edward, who, as a young man, was without ambition yet seemed to be destined for success. On the strength of a daring review, Edward is invited to meet Tyrell, the acclaimed literary genius of his day, at his house in France. The day after Edward's visit Tyrell is found dead, under suspicious circumstances, From that moment on, Edward enjoys phenomenal literary success and a modern-day Faustian story begins to unfold.

Reader/Ian Holm, Director/Marion Nancarrow

Manchester City v Manchester United.

8.00-10.00pm

Champion Sport

Jon Champion introduces live coverage from the FA Premiership programme, which includes the local derby match between Manchester City and Manchester United, plus a round-up from the European soccer scene and snooker from the Embassy World Professional Championships. Racing reports come from Pontefract and Southwell and evening meetings at Hexham and Windsor.

Presenter/Jon Champion, Producer/Jill Pulsford

8.30 - 9.00pm

South African Election Special

On the eve of the South African elections Alastair Sandford charts the country's troubled history in this one-off programme.

Presenter/Alastair Stanford, Producer/Rod McKenzie

Alan Freeman on the mid-sixties Blues revivalists.

9.00 - 10.00pm

The Story of Pop: Can Blue Men Sing the Whites?

Part 15

Alan Freeman takes a look at the often less than subtle 'appropriation' of the blues by the mid-Sixties revivalists in London. The programme features Eric Clapton, Jeff Beck, Mick Jagger, Keith Richard, Van Morrison, Pete Townsend, John Mayall, Rod Stewart, Chris Barber, Hughie Flint, Paul Samwell-Smith and Mickie Most.

Presenter/Alan Freeman, Producer/Paul Kent

2.03-3.30pm

Gloria Hunniford

Gloria's special guest is comedian, actor and writer Stephen Fry who will be talking about his latest novel 'The Hippopotamus'.

Stephen Fry starred with Hugh Laurie in Jeeves and Wooster on BBC TV and joined Kenneth Brannagh and Emma Thompson to make the film 'Peter's Friends'. His novel 'The Liar' went to Number One on the bestseller's list and his collection of essays 'Paperweight' was also critically acclaimed.

Presenter/Gloria Hunniford, Producer/Gary Bones

Stephen Fry talks to Gloria about his new novel.

Dr Who captured by the evil Tragan.

7.03-7.32pm

Dr Who: The Paradise of Death

The Tardis escapes from the battle, and arrives on Parakon before Tragan and his captive, Sarah Jane Smith.

Posing as representatives of Earth, the Doctor and company become hosts of the President of Parakon. Sara Jane Smith is saved by the Captain of the palace Guard - Waldo Rudley.

The President explains to the Doctor that Earth would be required to grow an amazing new plant - Rapine - from which literally anything can be manufactured. In return for this crop Parakon will export high tech' goods to Earth. However, the kindly old President is clearly out of touch with the reality of life on Parakon and as the Doctor and company attempt to escape, they are captured by Tragan!

Producer/Philip Clarke

Angela Rippon on spring.

9.03-10.00pm

Spring

Spring is one of Angela Rippon's favourites, as she reveals in this series about the Four Seasons.

With the aid of musical illustrations and treasures from the BBC Archives, Angela takes a look at events past and present connected with this season.

Presenter/Angela Rippon, Producer/Bridget Apps

Simon Rattle conducts Rameau, Debussy, Haydn and Bartok.

7.30-9.40pm

City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra

Live Concert

Simon Rattle conducts the City of Birmingham Symphony in a carefully-balanced programme: in the first half Rameau's dances from 'Les Boreades' are contrasted with the dancing sea in the symphonic sketches, 'La Mer' by Debussy. After the interval one of Haydn's, 'Paris' symphonies, No 86 in D major is paired with the suite from Bartok's ballet' The Miraculous Mandarin'.

During the interval at about 8.20pm the feature is 'Something Missing'. About 10 years ago the modernist abstract sculptor, William Tucker, began to model directly in plaster. In a shortened version of this year's Peter Fuller Memorial lecture, given earlier this month, he reflects on the fate of contemporary sculpture since artists have turned their attention away from a central preoccupation with human form.

Presenter/Chris Wines, Producer/Chris Marshall, BBC Pebble Mill

Interval Producer/Louise Greenberg

Mary Stewart on her incredible journey through South America and her emotional meeting with her foster child.

10.00-10.30am FM

Visiting Angel

Last in Series

Mary Stewart, 62 and widowed, is travelling alone in a dangerous world. An airline dumps her in the Columbian night without accommodation. A man in the customs queue has guns in his bag. On a cruise in Chile, she is almost crushed to death.

In the final programme of the series, Mary Stewart has an emotional first meeting with her 14-year-old foster child Angel. The meeting is the aim of her journey. Angel's mother makes clothes for a living, but her livelihood is under threat without a sight-saving cataract operation. Mary has to decide whether to offer financial help.

But the time of her journey's end, Mary has travelled 30,000 miles in five months. She has swum with piranhas in the Amazon, and heard of her mother's death along the way. This is the story of a remarkable traveller.

Producer/Gwyn Richards BBC Bristol

Frances McNeil's play about two sisters and a bridal business and emotional trauma.

2.02-2.32pm

The Bliss Business

Mandy and Carol are sisters and opposites - as one tries to establish 'Wedding Frocks for the Big Day', the other tries to cope with the breakdown of her marriage and the trauma of surviving everyday life in 'The Bliss Business' by Frances McNeil.

But when Lydia from the Dragonara Bridal House calls at the shop to check out Mandy's stock, she notices an uncanny resemblance to her pattern. What's more, Priscilla, the dummy, has a chipped buttock - identical to Lydia's missing mannequin.

Carol's efforts to support her sister's venture fail and the three generations - Mandy, her mother and her daughter - are unable to persuade her that happiness is compatible with the success of the business.

Tracie Bennett plays Mandy, Eileen O'Brien is Carol and Ann Rye is her mother.

Director/Kate Rowland BBC North

2.32-3.00pm

Comparing Notes

Richard Baker talks to conductor Lygia O'Riordan and leader Pia Siirala of Ensemble XXI, Russia's first International Orchestra for 75 years, about their experiences.

Presenter/Richard Baker, Producer/Ray Abbott

Bernado Bertolucci on his latest film.

4.05-4.45pm

Kaleidoscope

As the programme's 21st birthday celebrations continue, Gill Pyrah's guest in the studio is film director Bernardo Bertolucci. He'll be talking about his new epic, 'Little Buddha', which opens this week.

Presenter/Gill Pyrah, Producer/Jerome Weatherald

Fake perfume and mobile phone counterfeiters.

7.20-8.00pm

Crimes of Our Times

A raid by the South Yorkshire Drugs Squad turns up sex, lies and videotapes, and uncovers products which upset the nose of the security chief at a top French perfumer. Fake parts also produce different worries in civil engineering and civil aviation and 'Operation Hellweather' closes in on a gang of mobile phone counterfeiters.

That's all in this week's 'Crimes of our Times', the series which investigates fraud and its effects on our everyday lives.

Presenter/Margaret Percy, Producer/Brian King BBC Bristol

7.35-10.00pm

Football Plus

Jonathan Legard hosts live action from the evening's football action, plus cricket reports from the preliminary round of the Benson and Hedges Cup, snooker from the Embassy World Professional Championships and racing reports from five meetings.

Presenter/Jonathan Legard, Producer/Graeme Reid Davies

9.00-9.30pm

Alan Parker

New Series

Radio comedy's 'Urban Warrior' Alan Parker claims to be the most left wing person in Britain and reckons he could tell Billy Bragg a thing or two about political ideology. Tonight (April 27) he returns to BBC Radio 1 FM to continue his mission to subvert the audience.

Presenter/Alan Parker, Producer/Sarah Smith

Mark Kermode on the hunt for Rockabilly classics

9.30-10.00pm

Antique Records Roadshow

This week's show hits the Rockabilly trail as Mark Kermode takes the 'Antiques Records Roadshow' to Brighton. Mark Kermode will be looking for the obscure, bizarre and valuable vinyl relics in the Rockabilly category accompanied by celebrity guests and experts at the Brighton Centre.

Presenter/Mark Kermode, Producer/Bob Dickinson

7.03-8.00pm

Jim Lloyd

To mark the 60th anniversary of the Morris Ring, Jim Lloyd searches out those who continue to keep Morris traditions alive.

Jim takes an in depth look at the rich and colourful history of the Morris dancers and musicians, including the personal reminiscences of William Kimber and Billy Wells.

Presenter/Jim Lloyd, Producer/Jane Ward BBC Pebble Mill

Rita Connolly recorded in concert at Dublin's Tivoli Theatre.

8.03-9.00pm

Rita Connolly In Concert

The renowned Irish composer and arranger Shaun Davey introduces young Irish singing sensation Rita Connolly in a concert recorded late last year at the Tivoli Theatre in her home city of Dublin.

Rita, the fifth of seven children, grew up in a household where singing came naturally to everyone. By the time she was 14, she had taught herself to play the guitar and was out gigging with her sisters! However, it was her association with Shaun Davey that brought her to international prominence.

Some think of Rita Connolly as the interpreter of 'Granuaile', the symphonic work composed specially for her by Davey, a long-time admirer of her unique vocal style. She has also fronted several other of his recorded works, such as 'The Pilgrim' and 'The Relief of Derry Symphony', but has a diverse range.

In tonight's (April 27) concert, Rita uses the same musicians as on her recent solo album, and her backing group includes her own brother and two of her sisters. She performs one of her own compositions 'Red Dust' and brings the evening to a finale with 'Ripples in the Rock Pools.'

Producer/Phil Whittaker, BBC Pebble Mill

7.30-9.10pm

Halle Orchestra

John Adains conducts the Halle Orchestra in an American concert.

The American composer John Adains opens and closes this concert in which he conducts the Halle Orchestra with two of his own pieces, 'The Chairman Dances' and 'Fearful Symmetries'. The former, taken from his opera 'Nixon in China', is his most celebrated and frequently performance work.

Two other notable 20th century American composers also feature: Paul Crossley plays Gershwin's popular Piano Concerto in F, and the late John Cage is represented by his 'First Construction in Metal' for six percussionists, dating from 1939. The concert was recorded in Manchester's Free Trade Hall on Sunday.

Producer/Paul Hindmarsh

10.02-10.30am FM

The Wodehouse Letters

Last in Series

Tony Staveacre with a selection of letters on song-writing, royalties and rivalries.

P G Wodehouse hated 'My Fair Lady' and walked out of 'Guys and Dolls', his personal correspondence with friend Guy Bolton reveals.

Wodehouse and Bolton first collaborated in 1916, and together with Jerome Kern they were the first pioneers of intimate musical comedy at the Princess Theatre, New York. They were still working together in their nineties and whenever apart kept in touch through letters.

In the final programme of 'The Wodehouse Letters', Tony Staveacre presents a selection of correspondence between Wodehouse and Bolton, revealing insights into the business of song-writing, royalties and rivalries. The programme includes a commentary on the letters by Lee Davis, a neighbour of friends on Long Island in the Seventies, and the reminiscences of Bolton's daughter Marguerite. Wodehouse is played by Simon Cadell.

Presenter/Tony Staveacre, Producer/Susan Roberts BBC Bristol

12.25-12.55pm

Country Matters

New Series

Leslie Sharp and Jonathan Tafler star in this comedy about a rural idyll that turns sour.

Leslie Sharp and Jonathan Tafler lead the cast in a comedy series by Mike Coleman.

Dave and Cathy decide to move from the city to the small country village of Drayton Warlock. Their dreams of leaving the stress and strains of urban life behind them give way to the realisation that life in the country isn't quite the idyll it's cracked up to be. Lesley Sharp is Cathy to Jonathan Tafler's Dave and Robert Daws (currently to be seen in ITV's comedy 'Outside Edge') plays Wendell, with Geoff McGivern as Kevin and Rachel Atkins as Ruth.

Producer/Ann Jobson

2.02-2.47pm

Play for Today - Election Lives

John Dryden's play about the fortunes of a South African/British family.

The South African elections form the basis of this latest production in Radio 4's new 'Play for Today' series, which add a different dimension to major events and news stories and are completed on the day of transmission to keep them bang up to date.

Play for Today - Election Lives *(2.02-2.47pm continued)*

'Election Lives' follows the fortunes of a South African/British family living in London, during the build up to the elections. The characters are fictional but based on a real-life family, whose experiences are mirrored in the drama.

The fictional family consists of Ruth Mabuza-McCleod, her husband Duncan and their four children, the youngest of whom is 16. Ruth was born in Soweto and became a journalist. She meet and fell in love with Duncan, a doctor at a mission hospital. Under South African law their relationship was illegal and they became targets of extremists and the police. Eventually they both escaped to Zambia and decided to settle in Britain. Now Ruth is keen to go back to South Africa and live in the 'grey areas', the borderline between black and whites. One of their sons, Vikke, has already returned but is finding life difficult, and the youngest is in trouble with the police. What happens in South Africa will have a profound effect on their lives.

The cast includes Andoh Adjoa, Colin McFarlane and Joe Dunlop

Partly scripted and partly improvised, the play is being recorded on location around London and is being made in the same way as a montage documentary. 'Election Lives' is the first play to be directed by John Dryden, whose background is in documentaries. His credits include 'Soundtrack', 'The Wonderful World of Wanda', 'Anderson Country' and 'Itchy Feet'. The writer is Matthew Solon whose play are regularly performed on Radio 4.

Director/John Dryden

Michael Rosen at the George Spencer School in Nottingham to discuss teenagers' reading matter.

2.47-3.00pm
Treasure Islands
New Series

Michael Rosen returns with the series devoted to children's literature, with the first programme coming from the George Spencer School in Nottingham.

Michael will be discussing reading matter with a forum of 14-year-olds to find out what is currently popular with teenagers. Have the classics stood the test of time, or are they perceived as old hat nowadays? Do kids want adventure stories, or something more violent? Just what does it take to get them to switch off the TV or computer game and sit down with a good book?

Presenter/Michael Rosen, Producer/Jill Burridge

Quentin Cooper on Mother's Boys starring Vanessa Redgrave and Joanne Whalley-Kilmer.

4.05-4.45pm
Kaleidoscope

Quentin Cooper reviews the latest film releases, including 'Mother's Boys', a thriller starring Vanessa Redgrave and Joanne Whalley-Kilmer. He also has news from the 'Radio Oscars', the Sony Awards, which were announced this lunchtime, and has a few more 21st birthday memories.

Presenter/Quentin Cooper, Producer/Paul Quinn

The politics and pressure of being a university rector.

7.20-7.45pm
A Contentious Breed

Hard graft - the politics and pressures of chairing the University court, and the changing political face of the Rectorial Office, are the subjects of the second part of this look at the role of the Scottish University Rector.

A Contentious Breed *(7.20-7.45pm continued)*

One university principal described the unique role of the Rector as "Like electing a worker to be chairman of the Board", reflecting the fact that it's the students who vote the Rector into a position that's second only to the Principal in rank. Consequently the academic establishment doesn't always welcome the Rector to their business proceedings. Muriel Gray recalls her terror at their "icy politeness", while Jimmy Reid, an ex-Upper Clyde shipworker, took it in his stride: "I'd chaired meetings of boilermakers, so the University Court was a piece of cake."

Presenter/Charles Kennedy, Producer/Fiona Couper

Mark Whittaker on Leceister's strategy of winning people over to the green way of life.

8.15-8.45pm

Costing the Earth

Local authorities are at the vanguard of meeting the United Kingdom's environmental commitments but many people are unsure how much power they actually have to change peoples' lifestyles and behaviour. In this week's 'Costing the Earth', Mark Whittaker travels to Leicester - Britain's first 'environment city', to find out how communities with little green interest can be motivated to act for the good of the planet.

Presenter/Mark Whittaker, Producer/Marie Helly BBC Pebble Mill

West Ham v Blackburn.

7.30-10.00pm

Trevor Brooking's Football Night

British and European football action as West Ham play Blackburn, Newcastle meet Aston Villa and QPR face Arsenal in the FA Premiership and Trevor also looks at the Euro-scene with the first leg of the UEFA Cup Final and the semi-finals of the Champions League.

There will also be reports from the Embassy World Professional Snooker Championship and racing from thee afternoon meetings and the evening card at Cheltenham.

Presenter/Trevor Brooking, Producer/TBA

Students on exam pressure.

7.00-9.00pm

Evening Session

As part of the nationwide 'Student Choice' campaign, 'The Evening Session', over the next few weeks, will highlight the issues and pressures faced by students studying for their A' Levels and Highers this Summer.

In a series of special features individual students who are sitting their exams this year talk about their problems with studying, the effects on their lifestyle and give tips to other people who are revising too. In August a helpline will be available, giving students a chance to talk to careers officers for advice following their exam results.

Producer/Claire Jones

At the New testament Church of God in Leeds.

9.45-10.30pm

Gospel Train with Carol Pemberton

Carol Pemberton journeys to the New Testament Church of God in Leeds for today's (April 28) 'Gospel Train'.

Carol meets up with some friends in gospel a cappella group 'Chorale' and special guest, male soloist David Copeland. The community choir, made up from churches in the area, encourages lively singing from the audience.

Presenter/Carol Pemberton, Producer/Michael Wakelin - BBC North

Kent Nagano conducts Messiaen's 'Eclairs sur L' Au-dela'.

7.30-8.55pm

Glimpses of Beyond

Messiaen's musical last will and testament - 'Eclairs sur L'Au-dela'- was given its UK premiere in November by the London Symphony Orchestra under Messiaen specialist Kent Nagano, the American conductor who is now Music Director of the Halle Orchestra. Adrian Jack was in the audience at the Barbican and tonight he introduces a broadcast of this important occasion to mark the second anniversary of Messiaen's death.

The 80-minute 'Eclairs sur L'Au-dela' was commissioned by Zubin Mehta and the New York Philharmonic for the orchestra's 150th anniversary. The work is scored for a huge orchestra, calling 130 players together.

Presenter/Adrian Jack, Producer/Anthony Pitts.

9.45-10.00am

Letter From...

John Halkes has had a varied life as an RAF bomber pilot, an art curator and a vicar. His 'Letter From...' paints a picture of Cornwall that is far from its pretty tourist image of pixies, smugglers and clotted cream teas.

Presenter/John Halkes, Producer/David Perry for Perryscope Productions

Timothy Spall, Anton Lesser, Robert Glenister, Jamie and Julian Glover and Imelda Staunton star in this new six-part dramatisation of Alexandre Dumas's classic.

10.02-10.30am FM

The Three Musketeers

New Series

Alexandre Dumas's immortal classic comes to Radio 4 in a new six-part dramatisation by James Saunders.

Timothy Spall plays Porthos, Anton Lesser, Aramis and Robert Glenister, Athos. In what must be a first for any dramatisation of the story, the hero and villain , d'Artagnan and Cardinal Richelieu are played by father and son - Jamie and Julian Glover.

The Three Musketeers *(10.02-10.30am FM continued)*

Jamie Glover is the young and inexperienced Gascon d'Artagnon, who rapidly finds himself drawn into an extraordinary series of plots and counter-plots. He is aided and abetted by his three companions, the Musketeers of the title, Athos, Porthos and Aramis. If the villain of the piece is Cardinal Richelieu, then the villainess is the enticing and mysterious Milady de Winter, played by Imelda Staunton. Around her revolves a darker, deeper and even more brutal conflict.

Joining the Musketeers in 17th century France are Michael Cochrane as the Duke of Buckingham, Nicholas Boulton as the King, Teresa Gallagher as the Queen and Norman Bird and Helena Breck as M and Md Bonacieux.

Director/Martin Jenkins

Peter Jeffrey, Roger Hume and Richard Derrington star in this drama about a man servant accused of murdering his master.

2.02-3.00pm

The Campden Wonder

The year is 1676 and Sir Thomas Overbury, a magistrate in Chipping Campden, invites Dr Shirley from London to visit him because he has a curious story which he wishes Shirley to publish.

In their play, based on a true set of circumstances, Richard Derrington and Roger Hume have dramatised the mysterious story of John Perry who was accused of murdering his master and who, in turn, accused his brother Richard and his mother Joan, a witch.

But as the investigation proceeds, there is clearly much more to the crime than was first supposed. No body is recovered and certain aspets of John Perry's behaviour during his interrogation at the trial leave many questions unanswered. Certainly, no-one could have anticipated the outcome 10 years later ...

Roger Hume is probably better known to many Radio 4 listeners as Bert Fry in 'The Archers' while Richard Derrington (who plays John Perry) is, of course, the late Mark Hebden, who met his death recently on a country lane near Ambridge. Peter Jeffrey plays Sir Thomas Overbury and the rest of the cast includes Nigel Anthony, Kim Durham, David Bannerman, Brian Miller, Paul Webster and David Holt.

Director/Sue Wilson BBC Pebble Mill

Review of Adrian Mitchell and Mike Westbrook's new musical about William Morris.

4.05-4.55pm

Kaleidoscope

Paul Allen reviews the celebration of the life and work of William Morris in a new musical by Adrian Mitchell and Mike Westbrook in Salisbury, and looks at the extraordinary culture of the Bahia region of Brazil with its rich music and strong African connections.

Presenter/Paul Allen, Producer/Lore Windemuth

David Cook explores the ethics of profit.

7.20-8.00pm

Unwritten Rules

Last in Series

Is business about profit at any cost? To whom are managers responsible: their workforce or their shareholders? And what goes through the minds of decision makers when implementing a redundancy programme would mean greater returns for stake holders?

Winston plans to get rid of the Empson family.

Unwritten Rules *(7.20-8.00pm continued)*

In the series which explores the ethics of professions, Oxford lecturer David Cook asks a range of business people whether they can balance ethical decisions with the needs of their business.

Presenter/David Cook. Producer/Lucy Lunt BBC Bristol

11.00-11.30pm

Winston Back Home

The penultimate episode of Peter Tinniswood's cult comedy finds Winston (Bill Wallis) plotting to get rid of the rest of the Empson family so that he can be alone with Nancy (Shirley Dickson). When Father (Maurice Denham) burns down the summer house, and he and William (Christian Rodska) plan to move into a level-crossing keeper's cottage, it seems Winston's dreams have come true ...

Director/Shaun MacLoughlin BBC Pebble Mill

10.00pm - 1.00am

John Peel

Peel's favourites 'The Fall' are his featured guests tonight with a gig recorded at The Roadhouse, Manchester, last December.

Presenter/John Peel, Producer/ Mike Hawkes

7.30-9.30pm

Friday Night Is Music Night

Ian Sutherland conducts the BBC Concert Orchestra at the Guild Hall, Preston.

The BBC Concert Orchestra, conducted by Iain Sutherland, performs live from the Guild Hall, Preston for tonight's (April 29) 'Friday Night Is Music Night'.

The Orchestra is supported by the combined voices of the Preston Sicilian Choral Society and the Preston Orpheus Choir and singers Marilyn Hill Smith, Mary Carewe, Vernon Midgely and Geoffrey Davidson.

Phillip Dyson is the guest solo pianist and the programme includes 'The Warsaw Concerto' and Sidney Torches' 'Victorian Vanities'.

Producer/Alan Boyd

John Florance on Peer Gynt at the Swan in Stratford starring Haydn Gwynne and Alex Jennings.

10.30- Midnight

Radio 2 Arts Programme

The Midlands arts scene comes under scrutiny in tonight's (April 29) 'Radio 2 Arts Programme' live from Birmingham.

After last year's controversial 'Les Boreades', the award-winning City of Birmingham Touring Opera's new production comes under review. John will also be finding out more about 'Peer Gynt', Ibsen's play being staged at The Swan in Stratford starring Alex Jennings and Haydn Gwynne, and also by the RSC, Shakespeare's 'Henry VIII' starring Iain Glen.

There'll also be some Sixties soul music as the programme hears about 'Reet Petite', the Jackie Wilson story currently being staged at the Leicester Haymarket.

Presenter/John Florance, Producer/David Corser, BBC Pebble Mill

7.30-9.45pm

BBC National Orchestra of Wales

Live Concert

German Romanticism is to the fore in this evening's live relay from the Brangwyn Hall, Swansea. Tadaaki Otaka conducts the BBC National Orchestra of Wales in the Overture to Weber's opera 'Euryanthe' and Mendelssohn's Symphony No 3 in A minor 'Scottish'. Former Leeds Piano Competition prize-winner Lars Vogt plays Beethoven's Piano Concert No 4 in G major.

Producer/Michael George

Night time and Dawn in Athens over Easter.

8.15-8.35pm

Thursday Night/Friday Morning: an Athenian Soundscape

Interval Feature

Once the markets close on Holy Thursday evening, the city of Athens goes quiet. Mind you the tavernas stay open, not everyone keeps the fast, and the churches are full. But as the night goes on, the street sounds die away, doors are shut and people wait for dawn when.... the bells begin. Across the whole city, starting with two tiny churches under the Acropolis, the bells catch fire until there's a blaze of sound from the Agora to Piraeus.

Louisa Buck talks to sculptor David Mach.

4.05-4.45pm

Kaleidoscope

'Kaleidoscope' finishes off its 21st birthday celebrations with a flourish as Louisa Buck welcomes David Mach into the studio.

Scottish artist David Mach - the man who once built a rubber submarine, and recently became the first sculptor to design a set for a quiz show with his work on 'The Great British Quiz' on BBC-tv - turns his attention East for his latest work. There's also an audio tour round the new gallery at the Victoria and Albert Museum devoted to the history and diversity of glass.

Presenter/Louisa Buck, Producer/Louise Swann

The panel in Bournemouth.

8.05-8.50pm

Any Questions?

Jonathan Dimbleby visits the seaside resort of Bournemouth to put the panel through its paces. Those in the firing line tonight are: Tariq Ali, the author and TV producer; Simon Hughes MP, the Liberal Democrat Environment spokesman; Estelle Morris MP; and Sir Geoffrey Johnson Smith MP.

Chairman/Jonathan Dimbleby, Producer/Nadine Grieve

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